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Translated by Defense
Language Branch

The Manual of Wartime International Law and Regulations
May, the 12th year of Showa (1937)

The Navy Minister's Secretariat

9) The Navy Regulations for treatment of prisoners of war
Decree No. 33 issued on Feb 17, the 37th year of Meiji (1904)
The regulations for treatment of prisoners of war are laid down as
follows:

Regulations for treatment of prisoners of war

ARTICLE I. When enemy combatants or those who are to be treated
as prisoners of war according to the treaties or customs are
captured, their personal belongings should be examined immediately,
ARTICLE II. Among their personal belongings, arms, ammunition
and other articles which may be used for military purposes should
be confiscated and all other things be specially placed in custody
and kept by owners, whichever is convenient.

In the case of those prisoners of war permitted to retain their
swords the navy commander may allow them to wear their swords. In
this case their names and the reason for such action will be reported
to the navy minister.

Those swords allowed to be worn under the foregoing clause,
should be placed in custody in the detention camp.

ARTICLE III. When the procedures mentioned in the foregoing two
articles are completed, each prisoner shall be questioned as
to his name, age, position, rank, domicile, the ship and the
government of the country to which he belongs, and the date

and the place that he was wounded in order to make a roster of prisoners and a diary of prisoners. Also a list of properties confiscated or placed in custody shall be made.

ARTICLE IV. Prisoners shall be divided into officers or those officiating with them, petty officers and men for the purpose of giving them treatment proper to their positions and ranks except those who do not answer honestly to the questions asked as to their names and ranks, or those who violated other regulations.

ARTICLE V. If prisoners act disobediently, imprisonment, physical restriction, and other necessary steps may be taken, and in case prisoners try to escape, they may be prevented by force of arms as the case may be.

ARTICLE V, CLAUSE 2 If prisoners try to escape or act against order and discipline, they may be punished.

The foregoing punishments shall be carried out according to the Navy Punishment Regulations stipulated under ARTICLES XXIV, XXII-XXIV and XXXI-XXXVI. The punishment of prisoners shall be carried out by the chief of the naval office which actually interns them.

ARTICLE VI. A navy commander shall deliver prisoners to a navy yard or a navy station, with a roster of prisoners, a diary relating to the prisoners, a list of personal belongings placed in custody, and a list of their properties. However, he may deliver them to any other naval office as a matter of expedience under unavoidable circumstance.

If the prisoners die before delivery is completed, their personal property, their roster and all other documents and

articles shall be delivered.

ARTICLE VI CLAUSE 2 The naval office which has received prisoners, documents or other matters relating to them may transfer them to Navy yard or a Navy station as the case may be.

ARTICLE VII A navy commander, if he deems it necessary, may transfer with an army unit, a commissariat, or a transport and communication office, and deliver to it the prisoners they captured with a roster of prisoners, a diary relating to them, their personal belongings placed in custody and a list of their properties. In this case the prisoners will be divided into officers and those ranking with them, and, petty officers and men. The number of prisoners delivered should at once be reported to the Navy Minister.

ARTICLE VIII. When a Commander of a Navy yard, a Commander of a naval station, or a chief of any other naval office receives or has them transferred, he shall divide the prisoners into officers and those ranking with them, and petty officers and men, and their number will be reported to the Navy Minister at the earliest convenience. In case the Navy Minister should receive the report mentioned in the foregoing clause, he shall appoint the place and the date on which the prisoners are to be delivered to the army officers in charge.

ARTICLE IX When prisoners are delivered to a Navy yard, a Navy station, or any other naval office, they will be temporarily interned in a building substantial enough to prevent their escape till they are be transported or delivered.

ARTICLE X The place in which prisoners are interned shall be supervised by keepers under the direction of naval officers.

ARTICLE XI If prisoners apply to buy articles of their liking or other commodities at their own expense, they shall be afforded due facility provided that the supervisor finds no difficulty in doing so.

ARTICLE XI CLAUSE 2 If prisoners are allowed an interview, sufficient restriction shall be given as to the place and time of the meeting and a guard shall attend.

ARTICLE XII Telegrams and mail sent and received by prisoners will be censored beforehand by supervising officers. If no difficulty is occasioned, this may be permitted. In case any secret code is used or there is any suspicion, they shall be forbidden to be sent or be confiscated.

ARTICLE XIII Mail sent and received by prisoners is privileged to be exempt from, postage dues according to the treaties.

Any naval office which receives prisoners shall confer with a local post office so as to make necessary arrangements.

ARTICLE XIII CLAUSE 2 When the sick and wounded prisoners are placed under the medical care of a navy hospital or any other infirmary, a list of prisoner-patients shall be made in accordance with the list form given in appendix.

ARTICLE XIII CLAUSE 3 The funerals of prisoners shall be observed with ceremonies in due consideration of their positions and ranks.

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ARTICLE XIV The testaments of prisoners shall be dealt with the same care as is paid to those of the men of our Imperial Navy.

ARTICLE CLAUSE 2 Prisoner's personal properties and testaments shall be sent to the Prisoners' Intelligence Bureau from the authorities who had them delivered and transferred in accordance with ARTICLE VI and ARTICLE VI CLAUSE 2. In case there are any perishable things among the personal properties, they shall be sold and the proceeds be remitted. When the articles stated in the foregoing clause have been sent, a report shall be made to the Navy Minister.

ARTICLE XV A commander in chief of a Naval yard, a commander of a naval station and chiefs of other naval offices shall deliver prisoners with a roster of them, a diary relating to them, articles placed in custody, a list of properties and all other documents, to army officers in charge of prisoners at an appointed place.

(The lists given in appendix are omitted.)

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Translation Certificate

I, William E. Clarke, of the Defense Language Branch, hereby certify that the foregoing translation described in the above certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the original document.

(signed) William E. Clarke
/s/ William E. Clarke

Tokyo, Japan
Date 13 Jan. 1947

昭和十二年五月

聯時國際法規制要

海軍大臣官房

前略

明治三十七年二月十七日
達第三十三號

俘虜取扱規則左ノ通り定ム

俘虜取扱規則

第一條 敵國交戦者及僕隸又ハ慣例ニ依リ俘虜ノ取扱ヲ受クヘキ者ヲ捕ヘタルトキハ直ニ其携帶品ヲ検査スヘシ

第二條 俘虜ノ携帶品中兵器弾薬其ノ他軍用ニ供セラルヘキ物件ハ之ヲ没收シ其ノ他ノ物件ハ其ニ之ヲ保管スルカ又ハ便宜本人ヲシテ之ヲ携帶セシムヘシ

俘虜中將校ニシテ軍ニ其名譽ヲ表彰スル必要アル者ニ限り海軍檢御官ハ本人所有ノ刀劍ヲ佩用セシムルコトヲ得此場合ニ於テハ其氏名及ヒ号由ヲ軍大臣ニ報告スヘシ

前項ニ依リ佩用ヲ許シタル刀劍ハ俘虜收容所ニ於テハ領置スヘキモノトス

第三條 前二條ノ手續ヲ終リタルトキハ俘虜ノ氏名、年齢、身分、階級、

本籍地、本國所屬ノ艦船官廳及貢飭ノ年月日場所ヲ尋問シ俘虜名簿、俘虜

日誌ヲ調製シ且沒收若ヘ領匯シタル物件ニ就キ物品目錄ヲ調製スヘシ

第四條 俘虜ハ之ヲ將校同相當官及下士卒ニ區別シ其ノ身分階級ニ應シ相

當ノ待遇ヲ爲スヘキモノトス但シ其ノ氏名及階級ノ尋問ニ對シ誠實ニ答

ヘサル者又ハ其ノ他ノ犯則アリタル者ニ對シテハ此ノ限ニ在ラス

第五條 俘虜不從順ノ行爲アルトキハ監禁制縛其ノ他必要ナル手段ヲ施ス

コトヲ得

俘虜逃走ヲ圖リタル場合ニ於テハ必更ニ應シ兵力ヲ用ヰテ之ヲ防止スル

コトヲ得

第五條ノ二 俘虜逃走ヲ圖リ其ノ他紀律ヲ棄ル行爲アリタルトキハ之ヲ懲

罰スルコトヲ得

前項ノ懲罰ハ海軍懲罰令第十條乃至第十四條、第二十二條乃至第二十四

條及第三十一條乃至第三十六條ノ規定ニ準シ之ヲ行フ

俘虜ニ對スル懲罰ハ現ニ俘虜ヲ收容スル海軍軍衛ノ長之ヲ行フ

第六條

海軍指揮官ハ俘虜名簿、俘虜日誌、領置物件及物品目録ヲ添ヘ俘虜ヲ鎮守府又ハ要港部ニ引渡スヘシ但シ已ムコトヲ衛サルトキハ便宜真ノ他ノ海軍軍衛ニ引渡スコトヲ得其ノ引渡ヲ終ルマテノ間ニ俘虜死亡シタルトキハ其ノ遺留品、俘虜名簿真ノ他一切ノ書類物件ヲ引渡スヘシ

第六條ノ二

前條ニ依リ俘虜又ハ眷属物件ノ引渡ヲ受ケタル軍衛ヘ時宜ニ

依リ之ヲ鎮守府又ハ要港部ニ移送スルコトヲ得
俘虜又ハ眷属物件ノ引渡又ハ移送ヲ受ケタル要港部ヘ時宜ニ依リ之ヲ鎮守府ニ移送スルコトヲ得

第七條

海軍指揮官ハ便宜ト認ムルトキハ陸軍軍隊又ハ兵站若ハ運輸通信官衛ニ協議シ之ニ俘虜名簿、俘虜日誌、領置物件又物品目録ヲ添ヘ其ノ捕ヘタル俘虜ノ引渡ヲ爲スコトヲ得此ノ場合ニ於テハ將校同相當官及下士卒ニ區別シ其ノ引渡シタル俘虜ノ員數ヲ直ニ海軍大臣ニ報告スヘシ

第八條

鎮守府司令長官、要港部司令官又ハ其ノ他ノ海軍軍衛ノ長俘虜ノ引渡又ハ移送ヲ受ケタルトキハ將校同相當官及下士卒ニ區別シ其ノ員數

ヲ海軍大臣ニ報告スヘシ

海軍大臣前項ノ報告ヲ受ケタルトキ俘虜ヲ陸軍ノ俘虜受領員ニ引渡スヘキ場所及日時ヲ指定ス

第九條 旗守府、要港部又ハ其ノ属ノ海軍軍衙ニ於テ俘虜ノ引渡ヲ受ケタルトキハ之を輸送又ヘ引渡フ為ス途ノ間便宜兵舎其ノ他俘虜ノ逃走ヲ防止スルニ足ルヘキ建設物内ニ收容スヘシ

第十條 俘虜ヲ收容シタル所ハ海軍將校監督ノ下ニ監守者ヲシテ之ヲ取締ラシムヘシ

第十一條 俘虜自費ヲ以テ嗜好品其ノ他日用ノ物品ヲ購買センコトヲ申出ルトキハ監督者ニ於テ差文ナシト認ムル場合ニ限り之ニ相當ノ便宜ヲ與フヘシ

第十一條ノ二 俘虜ニ面會ヲ許ス場合ニ於テハ其ノ面會ノ場所、時間等ニ

第十二條 俘虜ノ發受スル電信及郵便物ヘ監督將校ニ於テ豫メ之ヲ検査シ差文ナキモノヘ之ヲ許可シ陸軍ノ使用其ノ他嫌疑アルモノヘ其ノ發送ヲ禁シ又ハ之ヲ沒收スヘシ

第十三條 俘虜ノ發受スル郵便物ハ條約ニ依リ郵税免除ノ特典アルヲ以テ

俘虜ノ引渡ヲ受ケタル海軍軍衛ハ其ノ地所在ノ郵便局ニ協議シ之ニ關シ
相當ノ手續ヲ爲スヘシ

第十三條ノ二 海軍病院又ハ其ノ地ノ治療所ニ於テ傷病俘虜ヲ收容シタル

トキハ別表様式ニ從ヒ俘虜患者表ヲ作成スヘシ

第十三條ノ三 俘虜ノ辨別ハ身分階級ニ應シ相當ノ儀式ヲ用フヘシ

第十四條 俘虜ノ遣言書ハ帝國海軍軍人ノ遣言書ト同一ノ取扱ヲ爲スヘシ

第十四條ノ二 俘虜ノ遺留品及遣言書ハ第六條及第六條ノ二ニ依リ引渡若
ハ移送ヲ受ケタル諸官ヨリ之ヲ俘虜情報局ニ送付スヘシ但シ遺留品中保
存ニ堪ヘサル物アルトキハ之ヲ賣却シテ其ノ代金ヲ送付スヘシ

第十五條 鎮守府司令長官、要港部司令官其ノ他海軍軍衛ノ長ハ指定セラ

レタル場所ニ於テ俘虜名簿、俘虜日誌、領糧物件及物品目錄其ノ他一切
ノ書類ヲ添ヘ俘虜ヲ陸軍ノ俘虜受領員ニ引渡スヘシ

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